

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-15 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1 and 9-15 were amended. Accordingly, claims 1-15 are at issue in the above-identified application.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Bjorn* (U.S. Patent No. 6,035,398). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

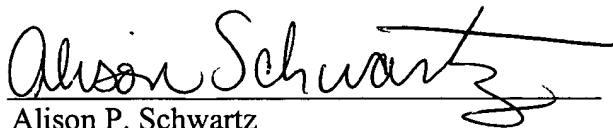
Each of the pending independent claims, namely claims 1 and 10-15, have been amended to clarify that the recited public key certificate and personal identification certificate, respectively, are generated by different certificate authorities which are separate and distinct from each other. Because no such feature is disclosed or suggested by the cited *Bjorn* reference, the pending claims are not anticipated by *Bjorn*. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the pending rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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